



## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

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### Judicial Profiles

#### Chief United States District Judge

**McCalla, Jon Phipps**

901-495-1291

Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Room 907, 167 N. Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103. Nominated for appointment in August 1991 by President George H. W. Bush, Sworn in February 28, 1992; elevated to Chief Judge in 2008. Born in 1947 in Memphis, TN. Married to Dr. Mary Rainey McCalla. Two children.

**Education:** University of Tennessee, 1965-69. B.S. in agricultural economics, Dean's list, Outstanding Senior, College of Agriculture, Reserve Officers Training Corps, Distinguished Military Graduate, Omicron Delta Kappa, Gamma Sigma Delta, President, Pi Kappa Alpha; Vanderbilt University School of Law, Nashville, TN, 1971-74, J.D., Vanderbilt Law Review, articles editor, Legal Aid Society, Public Defender Program

**Military Service:** entered active duty as 2LT, U.S. Army in 1969; Military Assistance Command Vietnam 1969-1970; Army Special Court-Martial Prosecutor, Fort Dix, New Jersey 1971

**Career Record:** 1974-75, law clerk to Chief Judge Bailey Brown, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee; 1975-80, Associate then 1980-87, Partner, Armstrong, Allen, Braden, Goodman, McBride and Prewitt, Memphis, TN; 1987-92, Partner, Heiskell, Donelson, Bearman, Adams, Williams and Kirsch, Memphis, TN where he was chair of the Intellectual Property Section

**Awards include:** Memphis Bar Association President's Award, Outstanding Service as Co-Chair, 2007 Bench Bar Conference, awarded December 6, 2007; West Tennessee Family Solutions Award, 2006 in recognition of service to people with developmental disabilities; military awards and decorations include Bronze Star Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge.

**Memberships:** 2006-2008 Planning Committee for the 2007 & 2008 Law School for Journalists Programs; Memphis Bar Association, 2007 Bench Bar Conference Co-Chair (2006-2007); 2006 Bench Bar Conference CLE Co-Chair (2005-2006); Master Member of the Leo Bearman, Sr. American Inn of Court, Counsel/Vice-President and Executive Committee (2006-2008), Executive Committee (2005-2006), Co-Chair Mentor Committee (2004-2005); Advisory Board Member, Memphis Chapter of Federalist Society; Cecil C. Humphrey's School of Law, University of Memphis, Member, Site Selection Committee (2003-2005); Chair, U.S. District Court Committee for Revision of Speedy Trial Plan; Member, Sixth Circuit Library Committee (1992 to present); Former Member, Sixth Circuit Standing Committee on Judicial Conference Planning; Member, Planning Committee for the 1997 Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference; Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference, life member; Member: American Bar Association, Federal Judges's Association, Federal Bar Association (Board of Directors 2004-2006), Tennessee and Memphis Bar Associations; President Central Gardens Area Neighborhood Associations, 1984

**Civic Activities:** Memphis Rotary Club, Co-chair/ Project Steering Committee; Rotary Reader Committee (2003 to 2007), Election Committee (2004), Project Study (2003 to present), Volunteer, Grizzlies School (2003 to 2007), Membership Committee (2005-2006); Economic Club of Memphis (1984 to present); Memphis Scottish Society (1995 to present).

**Religion:** Episcopalian

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## **United States District Judge**

### **Todd, James D.**

731-421-9222

Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Room 448, 111 S. Highland Street, Jackson, TN 38301. Nominated for appointment to the Court June 4, 1985 by President Ronald Reagan. Sworn in July 19, 1985; elevated to Chief Judge in 2000. Born in 1943 in Scotts Hill, TN. Married to Jeanie M. Todd. Two children.

**Education:** Lambuth College, Jackson, TN 1965, B.S.; University of Mississippi, University, MS, 1968, M.C.S.; Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, 1972, J.D.

**Career Record:** 1965-68, Science Teacher, Chair of Science Dept., Lyman High School, Longwood, FL; 1968-72, Science Teacher, Chair of Science Dept.; Memphis University School, Memphis, TN ; 1972-83, Attorney, Waldrop, Farmer, Todd and Breen, P.A., Jackson, TN; 1983-85, Circuit Judge, Division II, Jackson, TN. Admitted to TN Bar; U.S. District Court for the Western District of TN, 1972; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, 1973; U.S. Supreme Court, 1975.

**Awards:** Alumnus of the Year, Lambuth College Alumni Association , 1985; Lifetime Achievement Award, Lambuth University, 2001.

**Memberships:** Jackson- Madison County Bar Association, secy-treasurer, 1973-74, v.p., 1977-78, president, 1978-79, Committee on the Judiciary, 1980, Committee on Local Rules, 1983; Boys Club, Jackson, TN, director, 1974-86, president, 1980-82; Lambuth College Alumni Association, president, 1981-82; Lambuth College, trustee, 1980-82 and 1985-99; Jackson Youth Baseball Association, Inc., treasurer, 1982-83; Jackson Senior League Baseball, coach, 1981-82; Goals for Jackson, committee chair, 1976-78; Highland Park School PTA, vice-president, 1979-80; Federal Judges Association; TN Bar Foundation, fellow; District Judges Association of the Sixth Circuit, president, 2000-01.

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**United States District Judge**

**Donald, Bernice B.**

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## **United States District Judge**

### **Mays, Samuel Hardy Jr.**

901-495-1283

Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Room 1111, Clifford Davis Federal Building, 167 N. Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103. Nominated for appointment to the Court January 23, 2002 by President George W. Bush; received commission on May 10, 2002. Born in 1948 in Memphis, TN.

**Education:** Amherst College, B.A., cum laude, 1970; Yale University School of Law, J.D., 1973

**Career Record:** Associate, Heiskell, Donelson, Adams, Williams & Kirsch, 1973-79; Shareholder, Heiskell, Donelson, Bearman, Adams, Williams & Kirsch, 1979-1995; Shareholder, Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell, 2000-2002; Legal Counsel to Governor Don Sundquist, State of Tennessee 1995-97; Deputy to the Governor and Chief of Staff, Governor Don Sundquist, State of Tennessee 1997-2000

**Awards:** Board of Editors, Yale Law Journal

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**United States District Judge**

**Breen, J. Daniel**

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**United States District Judge**

**Anderson, S. Thomas**

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## **United States Magistrate Judge**

### **Vescovo, Diane K.**

901-495-1307

Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Room 341, 167 N. Main Street, Memphis, TN 38013. Appointed to the Court June 15, 1995. Born in 1955. Married. Two children.

**Education:** University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, 1973-77, B.A. (summa cum laude). Phi Beta Kappa; University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, Memphis, TN, 1977-80, J.D., *Law Review*, Editor in Chief, 1979, Phi Delta Phi.

**Career Record:** 1980-81, Law Clerk to Judge Harry W. Wellford, U.S. District Court, Western District of Tennessee; 1981-87, private practice, Lloyd C. Kirkland, Jr.; 1987-92, Litigation Counsel, Intl. Paper Co.; 1992-95, partner, Wolff Ardis, P.C. Admitted to Tennessee Bar 1980.

**Board of Directors:** Youth Villages, Inc.; University of Memphis Law Alumni Association, past president; University of Memphis Alumni Association National Board; University of Memphis Tiger Scholarship Fund Advisory Board.

**Memberships:** Memphis Bar Association; Memphis Bar Foundation; Leo Bearman, Sr. American Inns of Court, Master; Federal Bar Association; Federal Magistrate Judges Association.

**Publications:** Diane K. Vescovo, et al., *Ethical Dilemmas in Mediation*, 31 U. MEM. L. REV. 59 (2000); Note, *Appeals from the General Sessions Court to Circuit Court Under the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure*, 9 MEMPHIS ST. U. L. REV. 521 (1979); Case Comment, *Property Law - Builder-Vendor Held not Liable for Defects in the Sale of New House*, 8 MEMPHIS ST. U. L. REV. 902 (1978).

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## **United States Magistrate Judge**

### **Pham, Tu M.**

901-495-1351

Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Room 338, 167 N. Main Street, Memphis, TN 38103. Born November 17, 1971, in Di Linh, Vietnam. Married. Two children.

**Education:** Tulane University (1989-1993, New Orleans, LA), B.A. in English; University of Illinois College of Law (1993-1996, Champaign, IL), J.D. awarded *Summa Cum Laude*.

**Career Record:** Law Clerk to the Honorable William L. Garwood, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (1996-1997, Austin, Texas); Litigation Associate, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP (1997-1999, Chicago, IL); Assistant U.S. Attorney, Western District of Tennessee (1999-2001, Jackson, TN); Assistant U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Illinois (2001-2003, Chicago, IL).

**Honors/Awards:** Order of the Coif; Articles Editor for The Law Review; Rickert Prizes for Legal Writing and Academic Excellence; U.S. Attorney's Award for Sustained Superior Performance; Superior Service Award from the City of Jackson.

**Other:** Board of Directors, Federal Bar Association - Memphis Mid-South Chapter (2006-present); Fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation and Memphis Bar Foundation; Racial & Ethnic Diversity Task Force, Tennessee Bar Association (2007-2008); House of Delegates, Memphis Bar Association (2006); Co-Chair of Bench Bar Conference, Memphis Bar Association (2005-2006); Board of Directors, Memphis Tennis Association (2007-present).

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**United States Magistrate Judge**

**Bryant, Edward G.**

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**United States Magistrate Judge**

**Claxton, Charmiane G.**